

THE **ABSENTEE SHAWNEE** NEWS

LI-SI-WI-NWI "AMONG THE SHAWNEE"

www.atribe.com

February 2011

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Executive Committee



GEORGE BLANCHARD
GOVERNOR



ISAAC GIBSON
LT. GOVERNOR



MICHELLE LOPEZ
SECRETARY



KATHY DEERE
TREASURER



JEFFREY GIBSON
REPRESENTATIVE

GOVERNOR'S REPORT

I hope this finds all Tribal members healthy and fully recovered from the holidays. First, I would like to address the issue of jobs for Tribal members and the economy of the Tribe. The A.S.E.D.A. board is aggressively pursuing several business ventures that will hopefully boost the Tribe's economy and provide some jobs for Tribal members. The Executive Committee looks forward to working with the Board of Directors assisting them in these ventures.

The Executive Committee is well aware of the needs of Tribal members in need of home repairs. Lt. Governor Isaac Gibson and the Family Services department are working diligently to address these issues. We ask that you remember that functionally vital issues take priority over cosmetic issues, and we will strive to address all issues presented to us as funding is made available.

As you are all aware, there have been changes made in the Health Authority's medical departments. Due to these changes, there are many rumors starting to circulate in the Tribal Community regarding the

changes. I ask that you don't listen to rumors, but ask for the facts before forming an opinion on these changes. These changes are being made for the benefit of all Tribal members by the Health Authority Board of Directors. These changes will allow our health monies to be used for medical issues pertaining to Tribal members, and not for the usage of the Medical staff. It is our hope that these changes will result in the medical staff being better qualified to do the jobs they are required to perform for you the Tribal members.

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have regarding the many issues that need to be addressed.

George Blanchard,
Governor

LT. GOVERNOR'S REPORT

I would like to thank all of the employees for their hard work during 2010. There was some reorganization; parts of the reorganization were not favorable to the individuals or the departments but were advantageous to the Tribe. Sometimes, on a personal level, you don't want to do somethings but as a tribal leader they must be done. Decisions such as these require a lot of thought and you must also have the support of the majority of the Executive Committee.

On a lighter note, the Horseshoe Bend Facility is almost complete. There have been a few delays and the grand opening had to be rescheduled but we are getting there. The Tribe has received the site plan for the Brendle Corner project. Both facilities are geared towards afterschool programs for our tribal youth. The facility can be utilized for activities that will accommodate both adults and youth. We will keep you updated as we continue to move forward on these projects.

It is the beginning of a new year. I feel that the Tribe is stepping into this year with a good strong attitude. We are not just talking, we are taking action. Some of our endeavors are larger than others and will take some time.

We still have ARRA funds that need to

be obligated as quickly as possible. We have met with Pottawatomie County on several occasions regarding these funds. We have had informal discussions with Cleveland County but have plans to sit down with the Cleveland County Commissioners as quickly as possible, after the first of the year. We want to see how the counties and tribal governments can work together to improve our roads.

The economy is bad, funding is limited and there is only enough money to do so many projects. As politicians with aspirations of being re-elected, I'm sure the counties repair and build roads, select projects in areas where there is a large voting population. It was explained to them, that as elected officials we also try to make improvements in areas that are important to our people. These routes benefit non-Natives and we have limited funding too. Completing projects by inter-local agreements with neighboring governments is a very good way to get a costly project completed with limited resources.

Respectfully

Isaac Gibson, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor

Through the collaboration between the Lt. Governor's office and Building Blocks, a playground was funded for both the Resource Center and the Horseshoe Bend Community Center.



The playground was installed on the Northwest corner of the facility, as it would be in clear sight of the workout room. This would allow the parents to perform their workout while being able to keep an eye on their younger kids playing. We expect the playground to be widely used as the warmer months approach. We hope to be able to acquire other pieces of playground equipment in the future. We recognize that the community centers in both Little Axe and Johnson serve as a hub for the community and we are trying to create an atmosphere where the kids, as well as the parents, feel safe in visiting.

New addition to the Resource Center



During the month of December, a new piece of play equipment was installed and welcomed at the Resource Center in Little Axe. Requests have been made for some type of playground for the younger kids that come to the Center to have something to play on.

TREASURER'S REPORT

FINANCE DEPARTMENT JANUARY 2011

The Finance office continues our efforts in keeping the day to day activities flowing efficiently and effectively through communication between the Finance office and Programs. In working together, we have found the most time effective and cost effective processes for transacting business. A continued thanks to the Executive Committee and all the programs for their support and understanding in the Finance Department's continued efforts to stay caught up; as it is a constant flow of business transactions.

Our 2010 Audit is scheduled for mid February and will include the MD&A (Management Discussion and Analysis). The MD&A report is an informative report within the 2010 Audit; which is a brief review and explanation of the Audit. I am working on the fourth quarter financials to be submitted to the Department of Interior. We are preparing for Audit; pulling records and making final year end entries; accruals, inventory counts and adjustments, and final analysis of all Trial Balance Sheet accounts to ensure accuracy for a smooth audit process.

The Indirect Cost Proposal for 2011 final document has been signed by the Governor and mailed. Our rate is up from 17.74% for 2010 to 21.98% for 2011 and we should get our final letter signed by the National Business Center any day.

The finance department continues to complete accounting by the seventh day of the month and have been since August 2010; so that financial reports can be created for the Health Authority and Li Si Wi Nwi, Health Inc. boards for health programs both Shawnee and Little Axe.

It is imperative the accounting / bookkeeping continue to stay ahead of all of the accounting so that audits go smoothly so that Indirect Cost rates will stay up to date as well. Indirect cost proposals cannot be submitted without completed audits as the audits are used to calculate the proposal.

There are many processes in place in your Tribe's accounting department that ensure we keep accurate records of transactions. The Tribe's accounting processes must be in compliance with GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) and GASB (Governmental Accounting Standards Board). In complying with GAAP and GASB, there are many internal control functions that mandate a need for qualified accountants which dictates the need for more than one accountant to be involved with a transaction; i.e. the same person writing up the Tribe's deposits should never be the same person who reconciles cash.

The main objective of finance is to prove and ensure proper back-up documentation accompanies every single payment/transaction, no matter if the transaction is \$1.00 or \$1,000.00, and of course we must ensure that any transaction of the Tribe is an allowable expense and this is proved by the back-up documentation. There are many functions of the Tribe's finance department and this is just one that I wanted to share with you.

The rules and regulations of accounting are forever changing; there are rules and regulations in place today that may not have been in place 5 to 10 years ago which makes the accounting department today somewhat more complicated than it may have been in past years. In addition, the Tribe is a Self Governance tribe which also adds more work to the finance department whereas before the BIA and I H S handled a large portion of the Tribe's business. Not to mention the increases in BIA and I H S funding over the years, 51 Grants, and the new Clinic business.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Finance Department has a very hard working group of people and it is an honor to work with them, the Treasurer's office and at the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

This department, as always, would like to extend a special thanks and note of appreciation to the Executive Committee for providing the tools, resources and support to enable the finance staff to reach its accomplished goals and to continue with this effort. A special thanks and note of appreciation to Program Managers and Employees of the Tribe for their assistance and dedication in our group effort toward accomplishing our goal. Now that we are caught up, we are dedicated to continue our efforts in this direction.

If you have any questions or needs, please call 405-275-4030 ext 162 and I will be glad to assist you in any way I can.

Thank you,
Belinda Collins, Controller

GOOD DAY to our Absentee Shawnee Tribe Friends,

Well, we are finally in the final stages of opening our Shawnee Branch. We are now at the mercy of various vendors. A key to the process is the communication (phone and data) line between Calumet and Shawnee. This is good news and bad news problem. First, the Bad news: With the strong economy in Oklahoma the communication companies have a waiting list to configure data lines and to install them. Second, the Good news is we are on their list. There is a possibility that we will be up and running by the end of this month (January) thus, we could open the branch sometime in mid-to-late February. So, thanks for your patience and as spring thaw begins and warmer weather gets closer look for our "open for business" sign. YEAH!

Banking in general, is doing fine. Our assets grew by 38% and we had a nice profit in a year that will most certainly go down in history as very unusual. Unusually, 156 U.S. banks failed and U.S. interest rates were the lowest in history. I am sure the low interest rate environment contributed to some of the bank failures; but by far, I think the majority of the bank failures were due to mortgage lending problems and poor management. Your bank on the other hand, as of 12/31/2010, had less than .018% of its loans past due over 30 days. We'll put that stat up against the majority of U.S. banks for comparison any day of the world. We are strong! (Oops, too much bragging, but I could not resist.)

I would like to share some interesting statistics that I read about our Generation Y. They are the segment of the population that is the so called Millennials born between 1981 and 1999. They are 77 million strong and make up roughly a fourth of all Americans. Their average age is 37 and they carry the greater burden to support their elders, whether through taxes to pay for Medicare and Social Security

programs or as individuals who take care of their aging parents. The single most important difference between Generation Y (GEN Y) and older generations is their familiarity with technology. 90% of Gen Y'ers over 18 use the Internet, More than 60% of them go wireless and 83% of them keep cell phones nearby at all times. Two-fifths of Gen Y'ers don't even have landlines. They get their news from the Internet as from TV (59% vs 65%) Even fewer read newspapers or listen to the radio for news (24% and 18%, respectively). I'll give you a few more traits next month.

Time to close, and once again we are looking forward to joining the Tribe in Shawnee in the very near future.

We'll have the coffee on, see you soon.

Bob, Gene and Staff

Bob Billy

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

AUTHORITY (ASEDA):

ASEDA states its purposes as follows:

- To operate tribally owned commercial businesses located on tribal land whether owned in fee or held in trust for the benefit of the Tribe;
- To provide job opportunities for members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe in or near the Tribe's Indian country; which would utilize the talents of the members and provide adequate incomes on a long-term basis.
- To provide for the efficient and effective utilization of the resources of the Tribe's Indian country in a manner which protects the long-term interests

of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe and which provides an adequate return on investment and an income to the Tribe from the utilization of those resources,

- *To own, invest in, operate or manage businesses in or near the Tribe's Indian country.*

ASEDA Board members are as follows: Dan Little Axe, President, Adam Proctor, Vice-President, and Lyndale Waller, Secretary. They had their first official meeting on Wednesday, January 5, 2011, at 7pm., Tribal Complex, Governor's conference room. All three were in attendance with Kathy Deere, Tribal Treasurer, AD HOC member, and Eddie Brokeshoulder, Financial Consultant. Discussed several opportunities for new businesses. ASEDA goals and plans are for the benefit of the Tribe and Tribal Members.

Welcome

My name is Arlene Herrera and I've been working as the Treasurer's Assistant since December 1, 2010.

I've been busy boxing old files dated back to 1972 up to 2010. Getting the Financial Consultant's office

ready. Also, got the Treasurer's files, all in order for her, help enrollment, get the mail, deliver what ever

anyone needs delivered. I have honestly learned a great deal working here and everyone is so helpful. I'm thankful to work here and enjoy coming to work. I've met a lot of nice and interesting people while I've been here. It has been a challenge but, it's one I conquered and would do all over again. I hope this year brings everyone, peace, love, and much happiness.

Sincerely,

Arlene Herrera

Welcome tribal member Eddie Brokeshoulder to the office of Treasurer, Mr. Brokeshoulder was hired as the Financial Consultant. As Financial Consultant, his primary duty is to assist Tribal Treasurer in financial management analysis support in planning, developing, organizing, directing and evaluating the Tribe's fiscal performance and fiduciary responsibilities. As Financial Consultant, Eddie Brokeshoulder will provide the office of Treasurer with solution orientated advise and strategies related to the Tribe's financial needs. With over ten years of working in Tribal Government operations and administering tribal programs. Eddie brings valuable experience and knowledge in financial budgets, grants and contracts compliance and program development, health program administration and recently economic development. For the past two weeks since being hired, Mr. Brokeshoulder has reviewed past audits, 2011 budgets for general fund, indirect cost, Tribal Investment Portfolio by Redstone Investments, Inc., All Nations Bank business plan, Li-Si-Wi-Nwi Health, Inc./Joint Venture Construction Program, attend ASEDA board meeting, and assisted the tribe in collaborating in partnership in submission of a Administration for Native Americans (ANA) Language grant with Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma and Shawnee Tribe in Miami, Oklahoma.

Sound financial management is important to every person, government, corporation and organization. As a goal for the position of financial consultant is to assist the office of Treasurer in creating and communicating the financial process and providing financial transparency as possible to the Tribe which leads to mutual understanding between the Tribe and its leadership.

Greetings Tribal Members,
Hope is all well with you all and your families!

I understand there are rumors in the community relating to me about whether I should be in office or not, due to not having or refusing to do a background check. I assure you, I have complied with all the requirements. I've worked 30+ years with the state and federal governments, Department of Defense, United States Air Force, Indian Health Service and State of Oklahoma. In order to work with the state and federal governments, you have to have an extensive, thorough background check.

The Executive Committee members meet several times a month to discuss various issues concerning the tribe and tribal members. Monthly Programs Directors meetings are a good resource for us all to know what is going on in each other's programs. EC had a meeting with the Interim Executive Director and Program Directors of the Health Board concerning their budgets. Investments for the month are doing good but were advised to sell three and add three that are considered a good investment. Income and expenses are staying within boundaries. New 2011 budgets were passed and distributed to each program. I appreciate and welcome my new staff, Financial Consultant and Office Support Assistant. As you read on, you will see reports from ASEDA, All Nations Bank, Finance, and Support staff. Have a great Valentine's Day!

Respectfully,
Kathy Deere

**THE ELECTION COMMISSION
ACCEPTED THE FILING PACKETS
OF THE FOLLOWING TRIBAL
MEMBERS.**

GOVERNOR:

KENNETH BLANCHARD

GEORGE BLANCHARD

EWELL LONGHORN

TRIBAL SECRETARY:

LEONARD LONGHORN

MICHELLE ARMSTRONG-LOPEZ

LEWIS “JIM” JOHNSON

JOHN AL LITTLE AXE

TERI REED (TERESA WHITE)

PLEASE fill out EACH BLANK completely and return by the Deadline.

ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST

I, _____, hereby certify that I am or will be an Eligible Voter
(Print Name)
of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe on or before March 19, 2011. I cannot physically be present
to cast my Vote at the **March 19, 2011 Primary Election**, therefore, I am requesting an
Absentee Ballot be mailed to me at the following address.

Name (please print): _____
(first) (middle) (maiden) (last)
Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

CDIB#: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

All **REQUESTS** must be returned to the Election Commission by the deadline of
February 27, 2011

Mail to:

Absentee Shawnee Election Commission
P.O. Box 741
Tecumseh, OK 74873

Fax to:

Fax # (405) 273-1337 (Do not fax to any other fax #)
Phone: (405) 275-4030 ext. 150
Toll free number 1-800-256-3341 ext.150

Deliver in Person to :

Election Commission Office located in the Tribal Court Building

All eligible voters are entitled to vote either at the Polls or by Absentee Ballot.
For your convenience - This request may be duplicated

ELECTION COMMISSION USE ONLY

Received: _____ Approved: _____ Disapproved: _____

If Disapproved (reason): _____

Denial Letter Mailed: _____ Ballot Mailed: _____

Election Commission/Representative

Campaign Letters



Hello everyone. My name is Michelle Armstrong-Lopez and I proudly am Billy Joe Armstrong and Ruby Seahorn's daughter and an Absentee Shawnee Tribal member. My grandmother was Irene Coker Armstrong and my great-grandmother was Mamie (Day) Coker.

I am currently your Tribal Secretary and would like to serve our tribe once again by identifying and solving problems within the tribe and to continue working with the Executive Committee to come up with innovative solutions, and with a vision based on a set of strong values, I will continue to strive to help solve those problems that our tribe faces in the future.

*I have worked as the Tribal Secretary for the last four years and I have done my best in helping all tribal members with whatever they needed. If I couldn't help them then I found someone who could help them. My experiences give me a solid foundation for leadership. I taken a collaborative approach, and work well with others to inspire a shared vision for the future. And those who have worked with me will tell you that I introduce creative new ideas, that I don't compromise my principles, and that, most importantly, I work hard and **I GET THINGS DONE**, and I will continue to get things done as your Tribal Secretary if you chose to re-elect me.*

*I understand the need to modernize facilities, renovate crumbling structures and to build our revenues up for a more solid economic future. We, the EC have worked together toward a common goal, and have accomplished several different goals together. This Tribe needs someone with the skills, the temperament, and the core values to represent us with dignity and courage – someone with the experience of having accomplished goals and of having served the tribe; someone with the integrity to stand for cleaner government and to do what is right even if it's not what is popular; and someone with the passion to fight with a backbone for those causes that will make our Tribe better. I have the **EXPERIENCE**, the **INTEGRITY**, and the **PASSION** that the Tribe needs. And so, it is with humility, excitement and gratitude that I formally announce my candidacy for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, Tribal Secretary's office once again.*

I know that we finally have an Executive Committee that works as a team and is moving our tribe in the right direction. Please consider this in voting in the Election. We are moving forward and I hate to see us taking steps backward again like in the past.

I ask for your support and your vote in March. I look forward to hearing about your concerns and priorities.

Thanks!
Michelle Lopez



To all tribal members,

My name is Jim Johnson and I have filed for the secretary position for our tribe. I was the secretary in 1989 to 1991 and at that time we received \$50.00 per month for our position on the executive committee. I am willing to work hard for our tribe and not for the money. We need to look at other ways of bringing in more money to our tribe. We need to be accountable to our members of the tribe and not ourselves. A new casino is a new ideal, but more work needs to be done in the location, maybe closer to Oklahoma City or Norman. Have we looked at the expenses for the up keep, operation cost, employees, and can we build this new casino without using tribal money? I have served 6 years in the marine corps. I have lived in Norman for the past 20 years. If you have any questions, please call me at (405) 922-3835.

Important information about the \$3.4 billion Indian Trust Settlement

For current or former IIM account holders, Owners of land held in trust or restricted status, or their heirs

There is a proposed Settlement in *Cobell v. Salazar*, a class action lawsuit about individual Indian land held in trust by the federal government. This notice is just a summary. For details, call the toll-free number or visit the website listed below.

The lawsuit claims that the federal government violated its duties by (a) mismanaging trust funds/assets, (b) improperly accounting for those funds, and (c) mismanaging trust land/assets. The trust funds include money collected from farming and grazing leases, timber sales, mining, and oil and gas production from land owned by American Indians/Alaska Natives.

If you are included in the Settlement, your rights will be affected. To object to the Settlement, to comment on it, or to exclude yourself, you should get a detailed notice at www.IndianTrust.com or by calling 1-800-961-6109.

Can I get money?

There are two groups or "Classes" in the Settlement eligible for payment. Each Class includes individual IIM account holders or owners of land held in trust or restricted status who were alive on September 30, 2009.

Historical Accounting Class Members

- Had an open individual Indian Money account ("IIM") anytime between October 25, 1994 and September 30, 2009, **and**
- The account had at least one cash transaction.
- Includes estates of account holders who died as of September 30, 2009, if the IIM account was still open on that date.

Trust Administration Class Members

- Had an IIM account recorded in currently available data in federal government systems any time from approximately 1985 to September 30, 2009, **or**
- Owned trust land or land in restricted status as of September 30, 2009.
- Includes estates of landowners who died as of September 30, 2009 where the trust interests were in probate as of that date. This means you have asked a court to transfer ownership of the deceased landowner's property.

An individual may be included in one or both Classes.

What does the Settlement provide?

- A \$1.5 billion fund to pay those included in the Classes.
- A \$1.9 billion fund to buy small interests in trust or restricted land owned by many people.
- Up to \$60 million to fund scholarships to improve access to higher education for Indian youth.
- A government commitment to reform the Indian trust management and accounting system.

How much can I get?

- Historical Accounting Class Members will each get \$1,000.
- Trust Administration Class Members will get at least \$500.
- If you own a small parcel of land with many other people, the federal government may ask you to sell it. You will be offered fair market value. If you sell your land it will be returned to tribal control.

If you believe you are a member of either Class and are not receiving IIM account statements, you will need to call the toll-free number or visit the website to register.

What are my other rights?

- If you wish to keep your right to sue the federal government about the claims in this Settlement, you must exclude yourself by **April 20, 2011**.
- If you stay in the Settlement you can object to or comment on it by **April 20, 2011**. The detailed notice explains how to exclude yourself or object/comment.

The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia will hold a hearing on June 20, 2011, to consider whether to approve the Settlement. It will also consider a request for attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses in the amount of \$99.9 million. However, Class Counsel has fee agreements that would pay them 14.75% of the funds created for the Classes, which could result in an award of \$223 million. The Court may award more or less than these amounts based on controlling law. If approved, these payments and related costs will come out of the Settlement funds available for payment to Class Members.

If you wish, you or your own lawyer may ask to appear and speak at the hearing at your own cost. For more information, call or go to the website shown below or write to Indian Trust Settlement, P.O. Box 9577, Dublin, OH 43017-4877.

For more Information:

1-800-961-6109

www.IndianTrust.com

OILS

VETERANS

OKLAHOMA
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LEGAL
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INC.

TAMMY STOLIBY
Court Facilitator
Paralegal

4200 Perimeter
Center Drive
Suite 222
OKC, OK 73112

(405) 943-OILS
(800)-658-1427
Fax (405) 917-7060

email: stoliby@oilsonline.org



Scheduled to be in the Court Room on Wednesday, February 16 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon to assist with document preparation on Civil Legal matters or to direct those in need of Legal Advice or Representation to the right place.

The Tribal Veterans Association did not hold a meeting for January, due to scheduling conflicts. However, February's meeting will be held as scheduled on Wednesday, February 9th, at Thunderbird Casino [15700 E. Highway 9, Norman, OK]. The meeting will begin at 7PM. Association Color Guard members are in the process of being fitted for new vests and the new uniforms will be unveiled within the first few months of the present year. The Color Guard will be performing at the TGI Conference, on February 1st, in Catoosa, OK.

LAST WILL & TESTAMENT (WILLS CLINIC)

Thursday, April 28, 2011
Little Axe Resource Center
Please call OILS at (405) 943-6457
to make an appointment

THE ELDERS CORNER

By Cynthia Longhorn,
Secretary

The Absentee-Shawnee Elders Council held their regular monthly meeting Saturday, January 15, 2011 at the Resource Center in Little Axe. Officers Gene Parker, President; Mary Birdtail, Vice-President; Kathy Deere, Treasurer and myself were present. The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. with a quorum of thirty (30) tribal members and five (5) guests present. Others arrived during the meeting. Elder member Mildred Switch gave the invocation in the Shawnee language. Birthdays for the month were recognized for Gene Parker and Stella Little, wife of tribal member David Little, Jr. Announcements included the following items: Elroy Alford thanked the Elders Council for flowers during his recent stay in hospital, Gertrude Pickering pointed out that she forgotten to sign in during the December 2010 meeting, Secretary Longhorn informed everyone of Clara Rolette Kaskuske's recent injury but now is at home, Kathy Deere stated that the Little Axe girls basketball team had won a District championship, Esteline Schulenberg asked about left over or extra Christmas bags and was told that these had been distributed to Elders in the Little Axe area by Mary and Richard Birdtail. Serena Daughtery commented that this should be made known when this happens, that is, extra bags for other elders should be distributed to them. Donna Butler commented that only four elders had helped

bag candy. Kathy Deere stated that \$276 had been earned at the 1-14-2010 chili/stew dinner. Mildred Switch commented that our younger elders should be more helpful with events where the eldest elders were somewhat limited. Minutes of the December 18, 2010 meeting were presented for review and comment. They were approved. Secretary Longhorn apologized that during her absence in October and November due to illness that only minutes for the October 12, 2010 meeting were prepared in brief form by Kathy Deere. They were approved. To date, there no minutes for the November 6, 2010 meeting. The treasurers' report for the month of December 2010 was presented for review and comment. The AST account balance was given to be \$903.19 and the Elders fund raising account balance was given to be \$920.86. The report was approved. Old business brought out the comment from Helen Wilson, wife of tribal member Woody Wilson of the need for a tape recorder to be used during our meetings and pointed out that Frankie Watson, a previous secretary, had used such. Secretary Longhorn responded to this comment by saying that she had requested the current officers approval to purchase one but had been denied which resulted in her purchasing one with personal monies. Following lengthy discussion, a motion was made and seconded

to approve such a purchase at this time. The motion was carried. Secretary Longhorn will be reimbursed for her purchase and the recorder will become property of the Elders Council.

New business was the election of officers for the 2011-2012 terms. Dan Little Axe, Sr. was elected President. Gene Parker will fill the position of Vice-President. Cynthia Longhorn will retain her position as Secretary and Betty Watson will assume the responsibilities of Treasurer, their duties will begin with the February 2011 meeting which is set for Saturday, February 19, 2011 at the Title VI Building on the AST complex. The meeting time is 10 a.m. A cake/pie auction and bingo will be held following the usual pot luck dinner. For comments and/or questions, please feel free to contact Cynthia longhorn at (405) 273-4137.

happy birthday uncle pat
we love you
from LEIANN AND KANTYNN

PAT JOHNSON WE HOPE YOU AND
PATRICK WATSON HAVE A GREAT
BIRTHDAY
LOVE THE KASECAS

TO MY BEAUTIFUL NEICES CHELE
WOMACK
(FEB. 5TH) AND STEPHANIE GEISSLER
(FEB. 8TH) YOU GIRLS ARE VERY
SPECIAL I LOVE YOU BUNCHES
AUNT RHONDA

BRENT WATSON (FEB. 1ST) WE ARE
WISHING YOU A GREAT BIRTHDAY
LOVE THE KASECAS

Happy 50th Birthday &
Happy Valentines Day
Marv
I Love you
Sherry



Happy Birthday
Bart
From Marvin & Sherry

Happy Big FIVE-O
to our favorite mean Uncle
Marvin Smith
From your heathen nephews
Sebastian & Christian

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
To my Pawpaw MARV
From Ryder Cash

At Half a Century old
You are still the best
Beer drinker I know!
Happy Birthday MARV
From Brown Sugar Davis

Happy Birthday &
Happy Valentines Day
To the
Worlds Best MOM
(Velma Blanchard)
We love you very much!
Marvin & Sherry

Who is FIFTY & NIFTY
Happy Birthday Marvin Smith
From Shawn & Marilyn

Happy Birthday
JANICE LENA
From
Coondog & Hotdog

Happy 10th Birthday
Paige Gibson
We Love You
Uncle Marvin & Mama Seal

Happy 1st Birthday
Josh Foreman
From Marv & Sherry

Alford, Dianne Susan
Alford, Donald Ray
Alford, Paul Henry
Almanza, Sacha Blue Renee
Arellano, Jennifer Lynn
Argueta, Oneonta Marie
Armstrong, Dusty Ridge
Atwara, Honey Nicole
Barnard, Kevin Michael
Belden, Florene
Belden, Lois Little Creek
Bennett, Deeann Onahwag
Berryhill, Valerie Lynn
Bettelyoun, Amber Dawn
Bettelyoun, Anthony Bryce
Bettelyoun, Lea Dawn
Bittle, Joshua Jacob
Blanchard Craig, Carolyn
Jean
Blanchard Sr, Leland Dale
Blanchard, Aaron Gabriel
Blanchard, Caden Briar
Blanchard, Charles Eugene
Blanchard, Joshua James
Blanchard, Kellice Lee
Blanchard, Ladonna Rosalee
Blanchard, Rikki Rechele
Blanchard, Taylor Jordan
Blanchard, Thurman Leon
Blanchard, Velma Mae
Bowles, Melissa Carole
Boyd, Laura Lynn
Bread, Charles Michael
Bread, Dina Adele
Brokeshoulder, Tammy Lynn
Brown III, Curtis Jermain
Butler, Brandon Linn
Butler, Breanna Pamela
Campbell, Mikayla Jo
Carlson, Scottina Dakota
Carr, Adoree Celeste
Checotah, Eric Wayne
Cloud, Doris (Elephant)
Coddington, William Michael
Copeland, Val Rochelle
Cottrell, Ryan Thomas
Cozad, Anastasia E-mah-doh
Csoma, Alexander Attila
Daugherty, Kenneth
Daugherty, Mikenna Hope
Daugherty, Serena Mae
Davis, Meghan Paige
Deardorff, Cynthia Ann

Deer, Kylee Taryn
Deer, Michael Neil
Deere, Adina Ann
Edwards, Kenneth Lee
Ellis, Austin Chase
Ellis, Jeremy Michael
Ellis, Leroy
Emmons, Brian Ross
Ferrell, Ethan Shawn
Fixico, Stephen Anthony
Floyd, Jane Elizabeth
Foreman, Richard Eli
Frazier, Devon Leanne
Frazier, Shirley Fern
Geissler, Stephanie Dayle
Gibson Jr., Ronald Lewis
Gibson, Kylakay Virginia
Gibson, Loretta Mae
Gibson, Paige Nycole
Gibson, Paul Brian
Gilman, Juanita
Gomez, Wilma Sue
Goodman, Blake Samuel
Granstrom, Gayla Sue
Grass, Wayne
Ham, Jerred Mace
Ham, Rhonda Juliene
Harder, Ruth Ellen
Harjo, Benjamin Ray
Harjo, Reta Marie
Harper, Pauline Aileen S.
Hayes, Donna Kay Elkins
Hayes, Jocelyn Cynthia
Lorene
Herrera, Robert Manuel
Hibdon, Kendra Nicole
Hilderbrand, Amy Beth
Hill, Stephen Allen
Hood III, Warren Weslyon
Hood, Moria Oloizia
Huey, Sandra Lilrene
Jimerson Jr., Robert
Johnson Jr., Foster Calvin
Johnson Jr., Mark Benjamin
Johnson, Cleta Joyce
Blanchard
Johnson, Grayling Wade
Johnson, Henry Kirby
Johnson, Mark Benjamin
Johnson, Pauline Virginia
Johnson, Rahstin Allyn Sab-
bestium
Johnson, Sandra Kay
Johnston, Diana Sue Alford

Judkins, Ashley Ann
Kane, Sharon Lavonne
Kaseca, Beatrice June
Kickapoo, Derek Anthony
Kitchen, Amber Elisabeth
Knight, Natalie Jean
Krackenberger, Sharon Lea
Kupczynski, Joseph Martin
Lalehparvaran, Ali Jordan
Laplant, Scotty Alan
Lasarge, Amos Dewayne
Lasenberry, Bobby Joe
Leath, Mary Loyse
Lehman, Joenita Leigh
Lena-Tiger, Camille Dawn
Lewis, Elain Kay
Lewis, Pamela Lynn
Limbaugh, Jodi Kathleen
Little Axe Eckles, Debra
Lynn
Little Axe Sr., Danny
Little Axe, Ronald Dean
Little Charley Jr., Scott
Little Charley, Wanda June
Little Creek, Larry Dwight
Littlebear, Brooklyn Shay
Littlebear, Grant Edwin
Littlebear, Laura Jan
Littlecreek, Cynthia Marie
Littlehead, Gary Lynn
Longhorn, Avis Elaine
Longhorn, Cynthia A.
Longhorn, Lindsey Marie
Longhorn, Nathan Neil
Longman, Sasha Mae
Lowe, Kara Michelle
Lumpmouth, Wynona Lee
Maddux, Jonathan Webster
Tiger
Mahardy, Jeffery Andrew
Mann, Colby Lee Richard
Marshall, Denia Kay
Martinez, Erica Inez
Martinez, Jasmine Consuelo
Martinez, Shawnee Danielle
Masquas, Joshiah Lee
May, Gina Lanette
McDowell, Farrell Ramon
McKane, Sidna Rae Lenee
McKinney, Ellen Marie
Medina, Elizabeth Ruth Ann
Melton, Jaycie Taylor
Miner, Veda Jorene
Molina Jr., Charles B.

Happy Valentine's Day 2011

On February 21, Absentee Shawnee Tribe will be closed for President's Day. No Lunch will be served or delivered.

The Older Americans Act "Spirit of Elders" newsletter wanted some stories from different Title VI Departments of the United States telling about some of the traditional foods served and with the help of the Elders at Little Axe; their story was published in the January newsletter.

Just a reminder when the Shawnee and Little Axe School Systems are closed due to the weather, we will be closed.

If you have any questions you can call us at 405-275-4030 ext 169.



TERO
TRIBAL EMPLOYMENT
RIGHTS OFFICE

RANDY EDGE
TERO DIRECTOR

2025 S. Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, OK 74801
redge@astribe.com

Phone 405.275.4030 ext.135
Cell 405.432.9859

JOB OPENINGS: Laborers

SPIRIT OF ELDERS

Title VI Training and Technical Assistance Newsletter

Once a month, after a delicious elder meal, we celebrate birthdays of our elders, family members, and guests. We usually get a large sheet cake and have the bakery write "Happy January Birthdays" (or whatever month we're in) on it. We all join in singing "Happy Birthday," and we extend our birthday wishes to those celebrating. That way, we don't have a "sugary" cake each week, and it makes for one good, joyous birthday party!

Dorothy Boatright,

Chickaloon Native Village, AK



Brigitte Gokee,
Director, Red Cliff Elderly Program

"BIRTHDAY-DAY" is what we call it! The last meal day of each month is when we celebrate all birthdays in that particular month. We have cake, ice cream, and a gift for the birthday guy or gal. We have monthly drawings, where we award one \$25 Wal-Mart card to one lucky lady and gent. This is our biggest day of the month; participants love this because it is filled with fun, games, and laughter.

Shawna LaPointe,

Red Cliff Elderly Program, Bayfield, WI

A traditional Absentee Shawnee Thanksgiving dinner would most certainly have possum-grape dumplings on the table. This traditional sweet dish has been served for many years at family dinners and ceremonial functions. The process starts with picking the grapes in the fall and then cleaning and boiling the grapes. Next, the grapes need to be strained to make the juice. The juice is then boiled, and flour dumplings and sugar is added to make this a sweet treat. Yum Yum! We call it "Skip-hi" in the Shawnee Language.

Dos Owings,

Shawnee, OK

Yes, I do enjoy the meals here at the center... just to socialize and enjoy one another telling stories... memories. Oh! And the holidays... this is when we really need one another in prayer and gospel singing.

Mary McLean,

Fairbanks Native Association

My favorite meals are the moose soup, buffalo soup, and the rare times we have geoga, which is our half-dried, half-smoked salmon. Baked salmon or smoked salmon strips is another favorite in addition to salmon pasta salad in the summer. Just last week, beaver meat was served!

Elaine Pitka,

Elder Coordinator, Fairbanks Native Association

SPOTLIGHT ON: Blackfeet Tribe of Browning, MT

For 16 years, and counting, Title VI Director Connie Bremner has truly been an asset to the Blackfeet Tribe of Browning, MT. Connie works diligently to ensure that various elements of her program are geared strictly toward elders, including meals that are served. Connie was first inspired to revamp the meals when she felt a growing concern for seniors who were eating hard foods such as carrots and celery sticks. Acknowledging their nutritional value, she didn't want to get rid of these Recommended Daily Allowances-approved foods entirely. Subsequently, she decided to incorporate the vegetables into delicious salads that are served twice each week. "Now," Connie says, "we shred the carrots, the celery, and the other ingredients. This way, we still meet the RDA requirements, and we avoid putting our seniors in difficult situations."

Connie also wanted to highlight Maria Wagner, who she proudly calls "the greatest cook ever." "I wouldn't trade her in for all the gold in the Casinos!" Maria's flexibility and willingness to incorporate healthy cooking into their program is what makes her an extraordinary Title VI cook. Maria initiated cooking with light oil (a healthy alternative to regular oil) and Splenda® (calorie-free sweetener). She also insists on serving brown rice and baking with brown flour instead of white rice/flour, as brown is healthier for those suffering from diabetes. All of Maria's meals are cooked without salt, and the seniors know they can easily add it from the salt shakers on the tables; but those suffering from heart problems and high blood pressure sincerely appreciate her dedication to keep them healthy and on their toes.

State of Oklahoma Approved for
Driver's License Re-instatement.

Little Axe Resource Center

10 hour DUI School – February 7, 8, & 9th
6:00 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.

24 hour DUI School:

Begins February 14 and ends March 23rd.
6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. – Monday and Wednesday Nights

Shawnee Police Department

10 hour DUI School – February 9, 10, 11th
1:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

24 hour DUI School – February 22 through March 31st.
2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. – Tuesday and Thursday Afternoons

10 Hour fee - \$150.00

24 Hour fee - \$360.00

(Cash or Money order)

Call the AST Police Department to sign up.

**FREE Smoke Alarms and
Carbon Monoxide Detectors
still Available!!**

OEH personnel will provide and install smoke alarms and/or carbon monoxide detectors for enrolled Absentee Shawnee tribal members living in Pottawatomie, Cleveland, or Oklahoma County.

Please complete an application/short survey form and schedule a time and date for installation. Application/survey forms are available at the OEH office and at www.astribes.com.

Please contact OEH at 214-4235 for more information.

Absentee Shawnee Tribe

**Enrollment office
Address Change Request**

Date: _____ CDIB# _____ Birth Date: _____

Full Name: _____

New Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip Code: _____

County: _____ Home Phone (____) _____

Cell Phone (____) _____

**Please Mail to:
Absentee Shawnee Tribe
Enrollment Office
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, OK. 74801**

Tribal Member Signature

Date

Foster Parents Needed!!!

Can you open your home and heart for a foster child.? Foster parents provide a temporary, safe home for children in crisis. Foster parents are partners with child welfare workers, lawyers and judges. It is not for everyone but if you have it in your heart - we need you.

- Can you love and care for a child who comes from a difficult background?
- Can you help a child develop a sense of belonging?
- Are you secure in yourself & your parenting Skills?
- Can you maintain a positive attitude toward a child's parents?
- Can you love with all your heart & then let go?

FOSTER PARENTS PROVIDE A TEMPORARY, SAFE HOME FOR CHILDREN IN CRISIS. THEY ARE PARTNERS WITH WORKERS, LAWYERS, AND JUDGES. IT IS NOT FOR EVERYONE! CAN YOU OPEN YOUR HOME AND HEART FOR A FOSTER CHILD?

Many children need a loving home and a family to help them through a very tough time. Please think about it and talk with your family before you become a foster home. They all need safe, supportive environments!

If you find yourself and your family interested in Foster Care, please contact Melissa Lopez 405-275-4030 ext. 166.



Open 7 Days A Week!

366-7220

AST COUNTRY KITCHEN

Sunday - 7am to 7pm
Monday - 8am to 3pm
Tuesday - 8am to 3pm
Wednesday - 8am to 8pm
Thursday - 8am to 8pm
Friday - 8am to 10pm
Saturday - 7am to 10pm

Early Bird Breakfast

\$3.99 - 7 Days a Week

2 Eggs/Bacon or Sausage/Hash Browns
Biscuits & Gravy or Toast
(With coupon-No substitutions)



Check Out Our Wednesday Homemade Meatloaf Special

Meatloaf, Mashed potatoes, vegetable side,
salad, roll

\$6.99

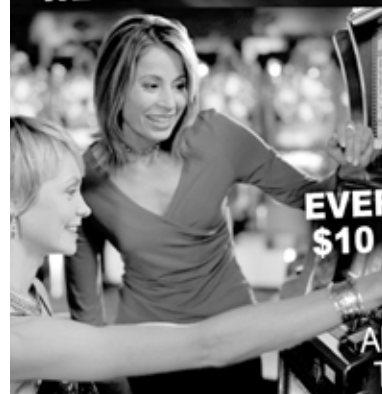
Check out our daily homemade lunch specials! Something different every day!

(In Front of Thunderbird Entertainment Center
Next to AST Smoke Shop)



ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL MEMBERS

WE HAVE A PROMOTION JUST FOR YOU



**EVERY WEEK RECEIVE
\$10 FREE SLOT PLAY**

Just show your
Absentee Shawnee
Tribal CDIB Card,
to take advantage
of the offer.

See Player's Club Desk
for complete details

Management reserves the right to change or alter any promotion.



Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority

1417 N. Kimberly, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74804

Phone: (405) 273-1050

Native American Programs Available:

- ❖ Lease with Option to Purchase
- ❖ Rental
- ❖ Over-Income Down Payment Assistance and Maintenance Assistance for Enrolled AST Members
- ❖ Maintenance Assistance
- ❖ Down Payment Assistance

PHARMACY NEWS

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL PHARMACY SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA

The Absentee Shawnee Tribal Pharmacy (Shawnee Location) can fill prescriptions for enrolled tribal citizens only.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribal Clinic Pharmacy in Little Axe can fill prescriptions for tribal citizens written by Physicians not located a Tribal Clinic under the following circumstances:

1. *The prescription is for an Absentee Shawnee Tribal citizen who has an established chart at the Little Axe Clinic.*
2. *The prescription is on the formulary of approved medications and stocked in the pharmacy.*

The following are a few tips to help us deliver pharmacy services to you more efficiently;

- ✓ *Present insurance cards each time you pick up or drop off a prescription.*
- ✓ *Keep us informed of all changes in address, phone number and other contact information.*
- ✓ *Let the Pharmacy staff know if the prescription is going to be picked up or needs to be delivered.*
- ✓ *If you have any questions concerning your prescription please feel free to call and talk to our Pharmacist. They are here to assist you with your pharmaceutical needs.*

Office of Environmental Health & Engineering

• Tribal Housing Improvements Application

The Tribal Housing Improvement Program's goal is providing sanitary, safe, and decent housing for its members by utilizing the following criteria to select the most "in need" tribal members with homes that are in disrepair but are still suitable for rehabilitation. All applicants must meet the eligibility requirements and criteria which is approved by the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

THIP list all applicants by a priority list:

- a. Handicapped/Disabled and Elderly
- b. Income
- c. Family Size/Overcrowded Living Conditions
- d. Condition of Home

Other Programs available:

• Sanitation Facilities Assistance Program

Applications need to be completed and all necessary documents attached before the application will be processed.

Applications are available online on the website: www.astribe.com.

Submit completed application to:

Office of Environmental Health & Engineering
Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.
Shawnee, Ok 74801

Absentee Shawnee Tribe Complex
Office of Environmental Health & Engineering, Building 13
If you have any questions, you can reach us by phone at (405) 214-4235

**If you'd like to submit an ad
or article give us a call at
(405) 275-4030 ext. 146 or
send us an e-mail at
mediadept@astribe.com**

**ALL ARTICLES WILL BE
SUBMITTED AS
RECEIVED.**



Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma

Little Axe Clinic • Little Axe Dental Clinic
15702 E. Hwy 9
Norman, Oklahoma 73026

Phone: (405) 447-0300 Fax: (405) 447-2250

Clinic Operating Hours
Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Weekends/Federal Holidays
Closed

* Clinic and Pharmacy will be closed the
3rd Wednesday of each month
from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m



ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE
OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA
2025 S. GORDON COOPER DR.
SHAWNEE, OK 74801

PRSRT
STANDARD MAIL
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 434
Shawnee, OK 74801

RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED

2011 TRIBAL PHONE NUMBERS

Tribal Complex	(405) 275-4030
or	1-800 256-3341
Building Blocks	(405) 878-0633
Health Programs	(405) 878-4702
or	1-877-878-4702
Little Axe Clinic	(405) 447-0300
Little Axe Dental	(405) 307-9704
Shawnee Clinic	(405) 878-5850
Shawnee Pharmacy	(405) 878-5859
Behavioral Health	(405) 848-4716
LA Resource Center	(405) 364-7298
or	(405) 364-7569
LA Cultural Center	(405) 447-3372
AST Police	(405) 275-3200
or	(405) 275-3432
OEH/OEP	(405) 214-4235
AS Housing Authority	(405) 273-1050
Thunderbird Casino	(405) 360-9270
or	1-800-259-LUCK
AST Media Dept	(405) 598-1279
AST Media Dept	Fax (405) 598-1294
AST Tribal Grocery & SmokeShop Little Axe	(405) 364-0668
AST Country Kitchen	(405) 366-7220
AST Smokeshop in Harrah	(405) 454-0055